

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Express Mail No.: EL62742664US

In re Application of: JARMAN et al.

FILING DATE: Herewith

ART UNIT:

TITLE: A UTILITY METERING SYSTEM INCORPORATING A TRANSACTION
AUTHORISATION SYSTEM

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 708P009508-US(PAR)

The Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Please amend the above-identified, enclosed patent application as follows:

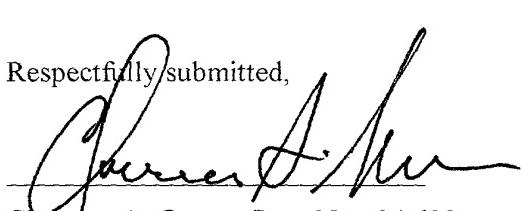
IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please add the following new paragraph to page 1 of the specification, after the title and before the "Field of Invention", in order to claim the benefit of the prior US application:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This application claims the benefit of the U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/210,997 filed June 12, 2000.

Respectfully submitted,


Clarence A. Green, Reg. No.: 24,622
Perman & Green, LLP
425 Post Road
Fairfield, CT 06430
(203) 259-1800
Customer No.: 2512

22 May 01

Date